

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday 21st July 2019

Silent Key

It is with the greatest of sympathy we report the death of Bill Rice (EI5FY) of Newcastle Galway and formerly of St. Mary's Crescent, Westport. July 14th 2019.

Bill was a keen CW operator and also spent a lot of his spare time chatting to his many friends on the Galway and Limerick repeaters.

He was always available to help shorten the journey for any motorist travelling the west corridor in the catchment area of the repeaters.

Ar dheis De go raibh a anam dilis. May he rest in peace.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group

The July meeting of the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group will take place on Monday the 29th of July 2019 in the Roanmore Social and Sports Centre, Cleaboy Road, Waterford at 8.00 p.m. sharp.

At this meeting Keith EI5KJ will be doing a talk about the little "pocket" type scopes known as Digital Storage Oscilloscopes. He'll be explaining what they are, the basics of how to read them (and use them) and how they can be of benefit when building or fault-finding radio equipment. The talk may not be of interest to everyone, but it should be found informative and a little humorous for most members. The group asks all members to please attend, and as always new members are very welcome to attend also.

For anyone that wishes to find out more about the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group and their activities you can drop them an email to "southeasternarg /at/ gmail /dot/ com" or attend any of their meetings. You can check out their website www.searg.ie and you can also join them on Facebook and follow them on Twitter.

Frequency Allocation for Digital Voice Personal Hotspots

We wish to remind all operators that the frequencies used on some personal hotspot devices have become an issue and it has become necessary to allocate specific

frequencies for their use. 434.000 Mhz & 438.800 Mhz are the two frequencies recommended so we would request anyone using a personal hotspot device to consider reprogramming their unit to one of these frequencies. Thanks for your cooperation in this matter.

144 – 146 MHz Band Threat

Reminder: Allocations of the radio spectrum are agreed at World Radiocommunication Conferences which are held every four years. Members will be aware that, ahead of the next conference, a proposal has been floated by the French administration to extend existing aeronautical mobile service allocations in Region 1 to a number of additional frequency bands, including the 144 – 146 MHz band currently allocated exclusively to the amateur service. If accepted, this proposal would have very serious consequences for radio amateurs, given the importance of the 2 metre band for a variety of applications. The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) and its member societies, including IRTS, will be vigorously resisting this proposal. See www.irts.ie/144mhz for the full background to the work being done by IRTS and IARU on this development.

DX News

A team of American operators will activate St Paul Island off the coast of Nova Scotia, Canada from 31st July – 8th August. St Paul Island is a separate entity for the DXCC Award and the callsign to be used is CY9C. Activity will be on all bands CW, SSB and FT8. QSL via Club Log OQRS.

Sven HB9DXB will be in Vietnam signing XV9DXB until at least early August. Look for him on 7019 and 14019 CW. QSL manager is EB7DX.

Geoff ZL3GA will operate as YJ0GA in Vanuatu from 21st July – 3rd August. He hopes to be on all bands CW, SSB and FT8. QSL via the home call.

SP3PS will be QRV from his holiday home in the Gambia from 23rd July – 5th August. His Gambian callsign is C5SP and he operates 20 – 6m on SSB and FT8. QSL via the home call.

Items for inclusion in next week's Radio News can be submitted via e-mail to "newsteam /at/ irts / dot / ie" for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. Urgent news items for the radio news may be telephoned to the radio news editor, Mark EI6HPB on 086 355 2370.

Please note that items for the radio news should reach the editor no later than midday on Thursday in order to be guaranteed inclusion in the following Sunday's bulletin.

[C]